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**54** **Article for connecting optical fibers.**

**57** An optical fiber connector pair is provided, which includes a plug assembly 10 and a receptacle 20. An optical connection can be repeatedly made and broken by insertion and withdrawal, respectively, of the plug assembly relative to the receptacle. The final alignment of the mating fiber ends is provided by a pair of silicon blocks 190, 370, each having a guiding groove formed in one surface. One block is included in the receptacle, and the other block is included in the plug assembly. One fiber end is affixed in each groove. The act of inserting the plug assembly in the receptacle brings the grooved surfaces together such that each fiber is captured by the opposing groove.



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 30 2886

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	US-A-4 186 997 (SCHUMACHER) * abstract * * column 3, line 55 - column 4, line 39 * * column 6, line 32 - column 7, line 65 * * figures 1,2,8,13 * ---	1	G02B6/38
A	EP-A-0 331 334 (AT&T) * abstract * * column 3, line 16 - column 4, line 21 * * figures 1,2 * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			G02B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 30 OCTOBER 1992	Examiner LUCK W.S.
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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